

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation adopts an order to amend TRANS 276.07(6), (8) and (16); and create TRANS 276.07(34o), relating to allowing the operation of double bottoms and certain other vehicles on certain specified highways.

ORDER ADOPTING RULE

Analysis Prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: ss. 85.16(1) and 348.07(4), Stats.

STATUTE INTERPRETED: s. 348.07(4), Stats.

General Summary of Rule. This rule amends Trans 276.07(6), (8) and (16), and creates Trans 276.07(34o), Wisconsin Administrative Code, to add four segments of highway to the designated highway system established under s. 348.07(4), Stats. The actual highway segments¹ that this rule adds to the designated highway system are:

<u>Hwy.</u> <u>To</u>	<u>From</u>	
STH 25	USH 8 in Barron	STH 48
STH 35	USH 63 at Hager City	USH 10 in Prescott
STH 78	Argyle	Mt. Horeb
CTH "F"	CTH "N"	STH 78 in Blanchardville

The long trucks to which this rule applies are those with 53-foot semitrailers, double bottoms and the vehicles which may legally operate on the federal National Network, but which exceed Wisconsin's regular limits on overall length. Generally, no person may operate any of the following vehicles on Wisconsin's highways without a permit: A single vehicle with an overall length in excess of 40 feet², a combination of vehicles with an overall length in excess of 65 feet, a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, an automobile haulaway longer than 66 feet plus allowed overhangs, or a double bottom. Certain exceptions are provided under s. 348.07(2), Stats., which implements provisions of the federal Surface Transportation Assistance Act in Wisconsin.

¹ The rule text often achieves these objectives by consolidating individual segments into contiguous segments with new end points. In order to determine the actual highway segment added, it is necessary to compare the combined old designations with the combined new designation.

² 45-foot buses are allowed on the National Network and Interstate system by Federal law. Section 4006(b) of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991.

The effect of this rule will be to extend the provisions of s. 348.07(2)(f), (fm), (gm) and (gr), and s. 348.08(1)(e), Stats., to the highway segments listed above. As a result, vehicles which may legally operate on the federal National Network in Wisconsin will also be allowed to operate on the newly-designated highways. Specifically, this means there will be no overall length limitation for a tractor-semitrailer combination, a double bottom or an automobile haulaway on the affected highway segments. There also will be no length limitation for a truck tractor or road tractor when operated in a tractor-semitrailer combination or as part of a double bottom or an automobile haulaway. Double bottoms will be allowed to operate on the affected highway segments provided neither trailer is longer than 28 feet, 6 inches. Semitrailers up to 53 feet long may also be operated on these highway segments provided the kingpin to rear axle distance does not exceed 43 feet. This distance is measured from the kingpin to the center of the rear axle or, if the semitrailer has a tandem axle, to a point midway between the first and last axles of the tandem. Otherwise, semitrailers, including semitrailers which are part of an automobile haulaway, are limited to 48 feet in length.

These vehicles and combinations are also allowed to operate on undesignated highways for a distance of 5 miles or less from the designated highway in order to reach fuel, food, maintenance, repair, rest, staging, terminal or vehicle assembly or points of loading or unloading.

Fiscal Impact. The Department estimates that there will be no fiscal impact on the liabilities or revenues of any county, city, village, town, school district, technical college district or sewerage district.

Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis. The provisions of this rule adding highway segments to the designated system have no direct adverse effect on small businesses, and may have a favorable effect on those small businesses which are shippers or carriers using the newly-designated routes.

Copies of Rule and Contact Person. Copies of this rule are available without cost upon request to the office of the State Traffic Engineer, P. O. Box 7986, Room 501, Madison, Wisconsin, 53707-7986, telephone (608) 266-1273. For questions about this rule making, please call Ashwani Sharma, Traffic Operations Engineer at (608) 266-1273. Alternate formats of the rule will be provided to individuals at their request.

TEXT OF RULE

Under the authority vested in the state of Wisconsin, department of transportation, by ss. 85.16(1) and 348.07(4), Stats., the department of transportation hereby amends ch. Trans 276, Wisconsin Administrative Code, interpreting s. 348.07(4), Stats., relating to allowing the operation of double bottoms and certain other vehicles on certain specified highways, as follows:

SECTION 1. Trans 276.07(6), (8) and (16) are amended to read:

	<u>Route</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Trans 276.07(6)	STH 25	Minnesota Line	USH 8 in Barron <u>STH 48</u>
	STH 26	IH 90 at Janesville	USH 151 S.E. of Waupun
	STH 26	USH 151 N.E. of Waupun	USH 41 S.W. of Oshkosh
	STH 27	USH 18 in Prairie du Chien	STH 171 at Mt. Sterling
	STH 27	USH 14 S.E. of Viroqua	STH 40 in Radisson
	STH 28	STH 33 in Horicon	IH 43 in Sheboygan
	STH 29	USH 10 in Prescott	STH 35 in River Falls
	STH 29	IH 94 W. of Elk Mound	USH 53 at Chippewa Falls
	STH 29	STH 124 S. of Chippewa Falls	USH 41 in Green Bay
	STH 29	USH 141 at Bellevue	STH 42 in Kewaunee
(8)	STH 35	STH 11 N.E. of E. Dubuque	USH 14 at West Avenue in La Crosse
	STH 35	STH 93 at Centerville	USH 63 at Hager City
	STH 35	USH 10 in Prescott	IH 94 E. of Hudson
	STH 35	STH 243 in Osceola	STH 48 in Frederic
	STH 35	STH 70 N. of Siren	IH 535 in Superior
	STH 36	STH 11 at Burlington	USH 45 in Franklin
	STH 37	USH 10 at Mondovi	USH 12 in Eau Claire
	STH 39	USH 151 in Mineral Point	STH 69 in Monticello
	IH 39	IH 90-94 S. of Portage	STH 29 W. of Rothschild
(16)	STH 76	USH 10 W. of Appleton	USH 45 at Greenville

STH 77	USH 53 in Minong	USH 51 in Hurley
STH 78	STH 11 in Gratiot	Pecatonica River S. of Wiota
<u>STH 78</u>	<u>Argyle</u>	<u>Mt. Horeb</u>
STH 78	USH 14 E. of Mazomanie	USH 12 in Sauk City
STH 79	USH 12 N.W. of Menomonie	STH 170 at Boyceville

SECTION 2. Trans 276.07(34o) is created to read:

Trans 276.07(34o) LAFAYETTE COUNTY:

CTH F	CTH N	STH 78 in Blanchardville
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(END OF RULE TEXT)

Effective Date. This rule shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register as provided in s. 227.22(2)(intro.), Stats.

Signed at Madison, Wisconsin, this ____ day of
January, 2004.

FRANK J. BUSALACCHI
Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Transportation